Message Text

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USIA FOR IEA DAKS

DEPT PASS EA/PRCM, CU/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: N/A

SUBJ: BOOKS FOR USLO READING ROOM

REFS: A) STATE 185992, B) DAKS/SYLVESTER LTR 9/6/77, C) SYLVESTER/FRIENDMAN LTR 4/26/77, C) HONG KONG 5131

1. SUMMARY. PROPOSED BOOK ORDER FOR USLO READING ROOM IS DESIGNED TO REACH THIRD COUNTRY DIPLOMATS AND NATIONALS WHO HAVE DIRECT ACCESS TO PRC CITIZENS, IN ADDITION TO MEMBERS OF OUR LOCAL STAFF WHO MAINTAIN AN AVID INTEREST IN ENGLISH MATERIALS. WE DO NOT FORESEE MUCH MORE THAN A SMALL REERENCE FACILITY AND ALREADY HAVE ADEQUATE PERSONNEL ON HAND TO SET IT UP AND RUN IT. END SUMMARY.

2. PERHAPS THE MOST SINGIFICANT IMPACT OF A USLO LIBRARY WILL BE AN EXTENDED LOAN PROGRAM TO FOREIGN LANGUAGE INSTITUTES IN PEKING AND ELSEWHERE. ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY THE PRC -- PRIMARILY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AUSTRALIAN AND CANADIAN -- HAVE VERY LITTLE TO WORK WITH AND HAVE OFTEN ASKED TO BORROWN MATERIAL THAT WE DO NOT HAVE.

3. IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING ENGLISH LANGUAGE MATERIALS FOR CLASSROOM USE, WE THINK THAT A REFERENCE LIBRARY WOULD BE USED BY THESE TEACHERS AND WOULD REACH

THROUGH THEM A SIGNIFICANT CHINESE AUDIENCE, SINCE PRC EDUCATION POLICY APPEARS TO HAVE LOOSENED ENOUGH TO PERMIT THE LIMITED USE OF FOREIGN REFERENCE MATERIALS. WE ALSO ENVISION A LOAN PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS HERE WHO WE WOULD ENCOURAGE TO MAKE MATERIALS AVAILABLE TO THEIR TEACHERS AND CLASSMATES. AS THE "MAKE FOREIGN THINGS SERVE CHINA" SPIRIT SOLIDIFIES, WE FEEL THAT A LARGE AUDIENCE, INCLUDING OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT BODIES, WILL PROBABLY DEVELOP.

4. AS STATED IN REF B. A COMPREHENSIVE BOOK LIST WAS SENT TO HONG KONG LAST SPRING. WE WOULD STILL LIKE TO RECEIVE THESE TITLES TO FORM OUR BASIC COLLECTION. AFTER THESE ARE RECEIVED AND CATALOGUED, WE ANTICIPATE LIMITED FUTURE ORDERS FOR BOOKS ON AGRICULTURE, ECO-NOMICS, SCIENCE, INTERNATIONAL TRADE, AND BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE UNITED STATES. A BASIC COLLECTION OF US UNIVERSITY CATALOGS WOULD ALSO BE POTENTIALLY USEFUL AS SEVERAL FOREIGN STUDENTS HERE HAVE REQUESTED THESE. IT WOULD ALSO GIVE US A READY REFERENCE BASE IF DISCUSSION ABOUT A STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM SHOULD GET UNDER WAY. WE ALREADY HAVE STATE MATERIALS ON THE PRC AND WILL NOT NEED ANY REFERENCE WORKS ON THE PRC FROM USIA. COMMERCE PROVIDES USLO WITH BROAD SELECTION OF REPORTS IN US BUSINESS, OVERSEAS TRADE AND STATISTICAL REPORTS. LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS SHOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT OVERLAP SO PROPOSED PURCHASES IN THIS AREA WILL BE CAREFULLY SCREENED BY USLO.

5. WE DO NOT FORESEE AN ELABORATE EFFORT AT THIS STAGE--THIS WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL WE HAVE ORE PERMANENT QUARTERS IN THE POST-NORMALIZATION PERIOD. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE MENTIONED OUR NEED OF A LIBRARIAN TO THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICES BURAU, WE DO NOT PLAN TO PURSUE IT FURTHER. THERE ARE MEMBERS OF OUR STAFF WHO HAVE HAD LIBRARY EXPERIENCE AND CAN HANDLE THE COLLECTION. OUR DISTRIBUTION OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE MATERIALS IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY SYSTEMATIZED AND WE FEEL THAT A LIBRARY PROGRAM COULD BE EASILY HANDLED WITH OUR PRESENT COMPLEMENT.

6. NEVERTHELESS, WE WOULD WELCOME AGENCY SUPPORT AND WOULD APPRECIATE USIA SENDING A LIBRARIAN HERE FOR CONSULTATIONS AND TO HLEP SET UP A CHECK-IN/OUT SYSTEM. AFTER THE INITIAL ORDER IS RECEIVED AND CATALOGUED, WE WILL SEND PERIODIC REPORTS ON USAGE AND PLACE MODEST ORDERS FOR OTHER REFERENCE WORKS. WOODCOCK

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